

Serial No.: 10/550,110  
Filed: September 19, 2005

**Remarks**

The Examiner has rejected claims 3 and 13-16 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 51125155, JP 36022145, JP 03200805 or JP 51125154. The Examiner has allowed claims 1, 2 and 6-12.

The applicants have amended claim 3 and also provided full translations of JP 51125155, JP 36022145, JP 03200805 and JP 51125154 together with their certificates of verification as an attachment. The prior art cited, as evidenced by the translations as attached herein, does not disclose a modified polyvinyl alcohol where the acid components and metal ions are removed using an ion exchange resin.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and reconsideration of it is requested. If the Examiner disagrees, he is requested to contact the attorney for Applicants at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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